

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 390073

Remarks

The Examiner's Office action mailed February 23, 2005, which rejected pending claims 1-5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, and 17, objected to claims 6, 11, 13, and 16, and allowed claims 18-23, has been reviewed. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, and 17 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,255,953, issued to Barber ("Barber") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,084,510, issued to Lemelson et al. ("Lemelson"). Claims 6, 11, 13, and 16 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant amended the claims to rewrite the objected to claims in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and to change the dependencies of the remaining claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 18-23.

The references cited by the Examiner and made of record have been reviewed by Applicant. Applicant has no further remarks with regard to the cited references.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that the Applicant's invention as defined by the claims is patentable over the references of record. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicant's attorney welcomes the opportunity to discuss the case with the Examiner in the event that there are any questions or comments regarding the response or the application.

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LATHROP & GAGE

NO. 0485 P. 11

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 390073

This is intended to be a complete response to the Examiner's Office action mailed on February 23, 2005.

Respectfully Submitted,

LATHROP & GAGE L.C.

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